

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1 and 3 are currently amended. Claims 2 and 4 – 6 are original. Claims 7 – 14 are withdrawn. No new matter is added by these amendments. Consideration of all amendments is respectfully requested.

5 **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of changing the audible volume level of a digital signal comprising:

providing a destination volume ~~value~~ to a DSP; and

10 with the DSP, gradually incrementing the volume level of the digital signal by a
volume level increment to the destination volume ~~value~~ within a
predetermined time period;

whereby any destination volume ~~designated by the destination volume value~~ is
achieved in the digital signal in the same amount of time and a size of the
volume level increment is determined according to the destination volume,
15 the volume level of the digital signal, and the predetermined time period.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the incrementing step further
comprises:

20 gradually incrementing the digital signal within a predetermined sample number
corresponding to the predetermined time period.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 2 wherein the incrementing step
further comprises:

25 subtracting the current volume value of the digital signal from the destination
volume ~~value~~;

dividing the result from the subtracting step by the predetermined sample
number to obtain a volume step;

incrementing the output signal by the volume step in a continuous fashion until
the volume destination is reached.

5 Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein the result from the subtracting step is a
positive number.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein the result from the subtracting step is a
negative number.

10 Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 2 wherein the predetermined sample number is
user-selectable.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A Digital Signal Processor (DSP) for adjusting the volume of a
digital signal stored in a data stream, the DSP comprising:
15 a processing unit for processing the data stream;
a first memory coupled to the processing unit for storing a destination volume
value; and
a second memory coupled to the processing unit for storing a time_determining
value;
20 wherein the processing unit adjusts the volume of the signal stored in the data
stream according to the time_determining value such that the adjustment
from a current volume value of the signal to the destination volume value is
accomplished within a predetermined time.

25 Claim 8 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 further comprising a program memory coupled
to the processing unit for storing a program controlling the flow of operations in
the DSP.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 8 wherein the program memory comprises a
ROM type memory.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 wherein the first memory comprises a register.

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Claim 11 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 wherein the second memory comprises a
register.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 further comprising a data memory for storing
temporary variables.

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Claim 13 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 12 wherein the data memory comprises an
SRAM type memory.

15 Claim 14 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 wherein the second memory stores a sample
number corresponding to the predetermined time.

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